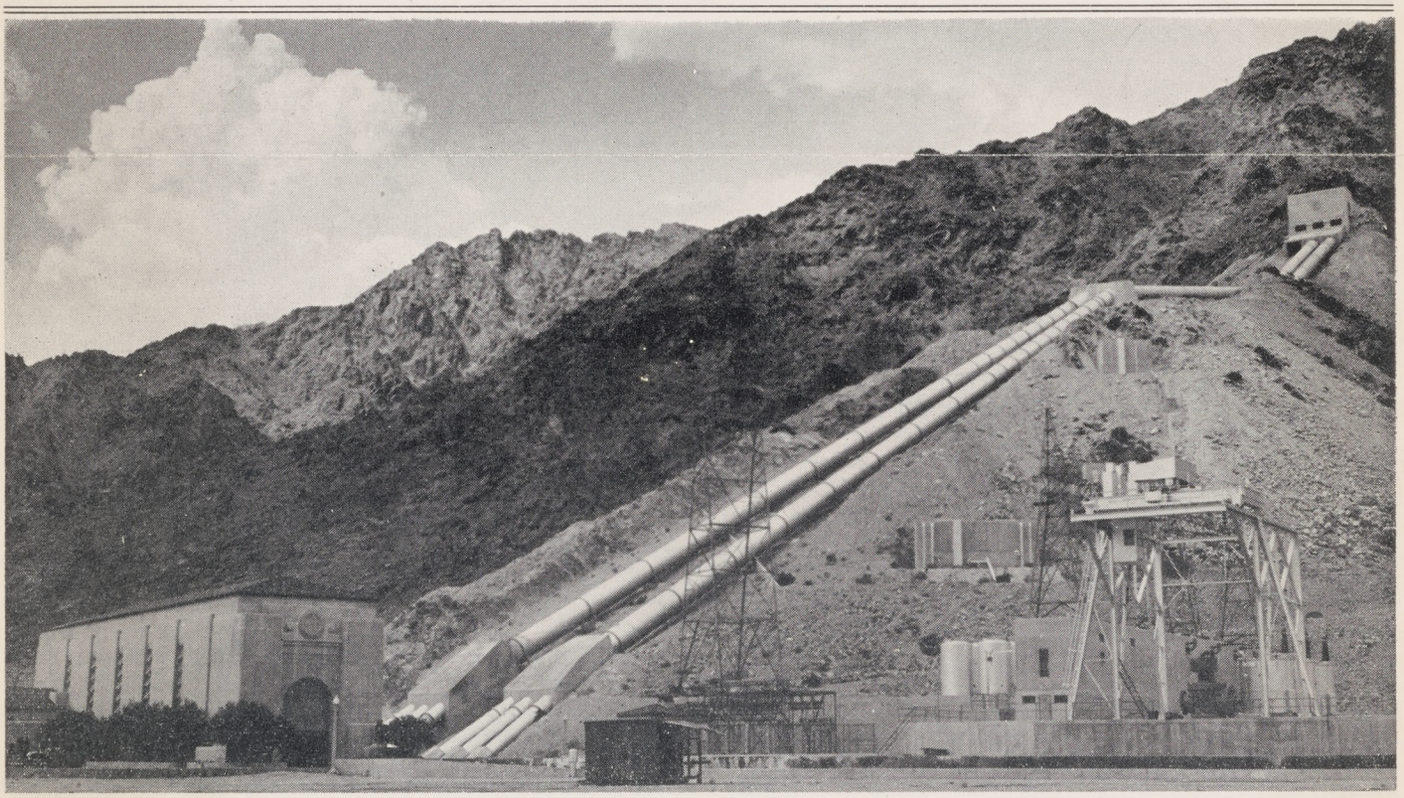
• COLORADO RIVER •

AQUEDUCT NEWS

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

VOLUME XXIII SEPTEMBER, 1956 NUMBER 9



Shown above is Hayfield Pumping Plant, the westernmost pump lift on the Colorado River Aqueduct, located about 126 miles west of the Colorado River. From this point water travels by gravity to the cities and areas within the Metropolitan Water District. Shown in the picture beside the original delivery line installed for units one, two and three is line number two which will carry the water pumped by units four, five and six. Work on the installation of pumping units four and five was completed on September 27.

Contracts Awarded for Final Battery of Pumps

To bring still more water through the great Colorado River Aqueduct, directors of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California on September 18 awarded contracts to manufacturing firms for a new battery of giant pumps and motors to lift the aqueduct water over mountain barriers that stand between the Colorado River and the cities on the south coastal plain. The contracts, awarded on the recommendation of General Manager and Chief Engineer Robert B. Diemer, total about $7,320,000, and cover the cost of fifteen additional pumping units, with three of the pumps to be installed at each of the five pumping stations on the main aqueduct line.

A population increase of 4,000,000 in the Metropolitan Water District can be supplied with water by the new pumps for which contracts were awarded, together with the battery of pumps recently installed or in process of installation on the aqueduct system, District officials pointed out. The present population of the District, which includes 72 incorporated cities, is about 6,500,000, it was stated.

Installation of these last three units at each of the five plants will make a total of nine pumps at each plant and will bring to full capacity the pumping facilities on the Colorado River Aqueduct. In order to pump the District's full contract right of 1,212,000 acre-feet per year, eight of the pumps at each of the plants will have to operate continuously, with the ninth pump operating one-third of the time. For the other one-third of the time, the ninth pump will be a standby unit available for immediate action in the event of a shutdown of any of the other units.

According to General Manager Diemer, the Water District now has four of the big pumps in operation at each pumping station. A fifth pump at each of the five plants will be ready for operation as a standby unit within the next thirty days, Diemer stated. A sixth pump at each station is scheduled to be ready to start work in 1957, he said.

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306 West Third Street
Los Angeles, California

Published monthly in the interest of Field and Office Workers on the Colorado River Aqueduct, and for the information of all other citizens of the Metropolitan Water District.

Vol. XXIII September, 1956 No. 9

DIRECTOR FLOYD E. FISCHER—Five Years on District Board

Director Floyd E. Fischer, who represents Beverly Hills on the District Board of Directors, was presented with his five year service pin on September 18. He became eligible for the pin on August 17.

Mr. Fischer, who is a member of the Beverly Hills City Council, replaced Arthur Taylor on the District Board. He is serving on three Board Committees including Engineering and Operations, Organization and Personnel, and Finance and Insurance.

Contracts Awarded

(Continued from Page One)

Contracts just awarded will make a total of nine pumps in each of the five stations.

Each of the electrically driven centrifugal pumps has a capacity of 200 cubic feet per second, or 90,000 gallons a minute, District engineers pointed out. The aqueduct pumps lift the water a total of 1617 feet in crossing mountain barriers.

In addition to completing the Aqueduct's pumping facilities, the District is pushing forward the remainder of a $172,000,000 expansion program, including additional siphons, increased reservoir storage and distributing lines to bring the entire aqueduct system to its full planned capacity of delivering more than one billion gallons of water per day to the Southern California cities and areas in the Metropolitan Water District.

Successful bidders awarded contracts yesterday include: Byron Jackson Pumps, Inc., 6 pumps; Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Co., 3 pumps; Worthington Corporation, 6 pumps; Elliott Company, 12 motors; Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company, 3 motors. The total cost of the 15 pumps and 15 motors is $7,319,392.

DIRECTOR IRWIN E. FARRAR—Five Years on District Board

Director Irwin E. Farrar, who represents the Eastern Municipal Water District on the District Board of Directors, became eligible for his five year pin on August 31.

Mr. Farrar is President of the Board of Directors of the Eastern Municipal Water District. On the Metropolitan Water District Board he is Vice Chairman of the Water Problems and Public Relations Committee and a member of the Legal and Claims Committee.

Mr. Farrar is presently recovering from an operation and will receive his pin when he resumes his position on the Board.

For the RECORD

(The following items are noted from the report of General Manager and Chief Engineer Robert B. Diemer, filed September, 1956 covering District operations for August, 1956.)

Colorado River—The water surface in Lake Mead fell 3.74 feet during August to elevation 1110.66 feet, and the usable storage decreased 373,000 acre-feet to 13,266,000 acre-feet. Water surface at Lake Havasu varied between 449.6 and 447.6, and the average rate of discharge at Parker Dam was 13,640 cubic feet per second.

Power and Pumping—Hayfield plant pumped 42,714 acre-feet of water during August. Pumping at Hayfield was continuously on a 3-pump basis until August 16, when Pump Unit No. 4 was placed in service and for the remainder of the month pumping was on a 4-pump basis. The District's share of Parker energy was 27,176,118 kwhrs. Peak delivery to and from Edison was 110,000 and 105,000 kw, respectively.

Weymouth Softening and Filtration Plant — Colorado River water was softened from a natural hardness of 365 to a finished hardness of 190 ppm at an average rate of 387 cfs. Daily rate of flow varied from a minimum of 305 to a maximum of 422 cfs.

Construction—All work on Schedules 75P and 90SC (Lower Feeder and Santiago Lateral) was completed on August 20. On schedule 91P of the Santiago Lateral contract work is 98 percent complete. The contract on the West Orange County Feeder Extension (Schedule 61SC) is 78 percent complete; Lower Feeder Schedule 79SC is 24 percent complete, and Lower Feeder Schedule 80SC is 44 percent complete. Contract work on the Middle Cross Feeder (Schedule 53SC) is 96 percent complete.

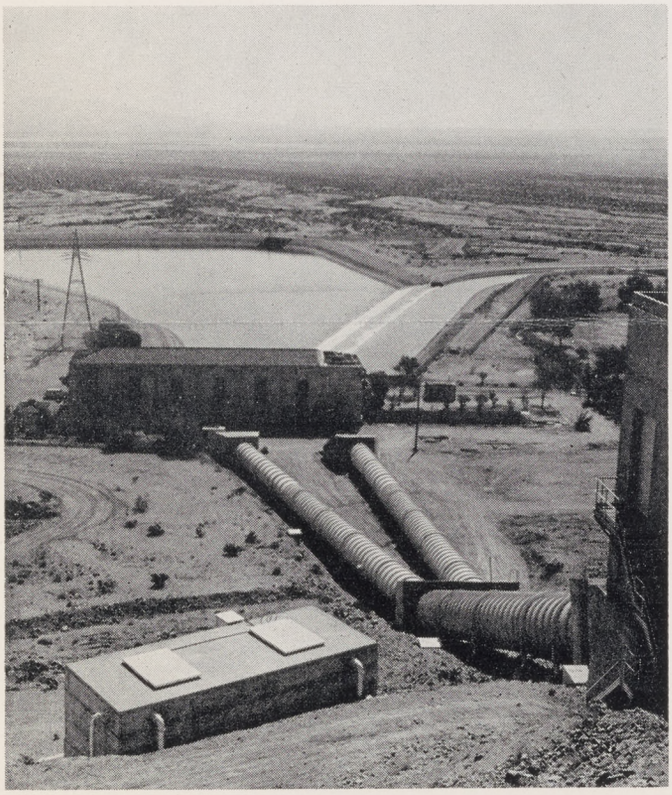
Pumping Plant Expansion: Installation of pump units 4 and 5—Pump Unit 4 has been placed in service during August at all plants. Installation on Unit 5 at Hayfield and Eagle Mountain continued with all work 97 and 93 percent complete, respectively. On the extension of pumping plant buildings, the contract is 10 percent complete. The end wall has been demolished at Intake and Gene plants and erection of structural steel and installation of electrical conduit started at Intake.

Purchasing—Total expenditures covered by 438 purchase orders approximated $105,469.

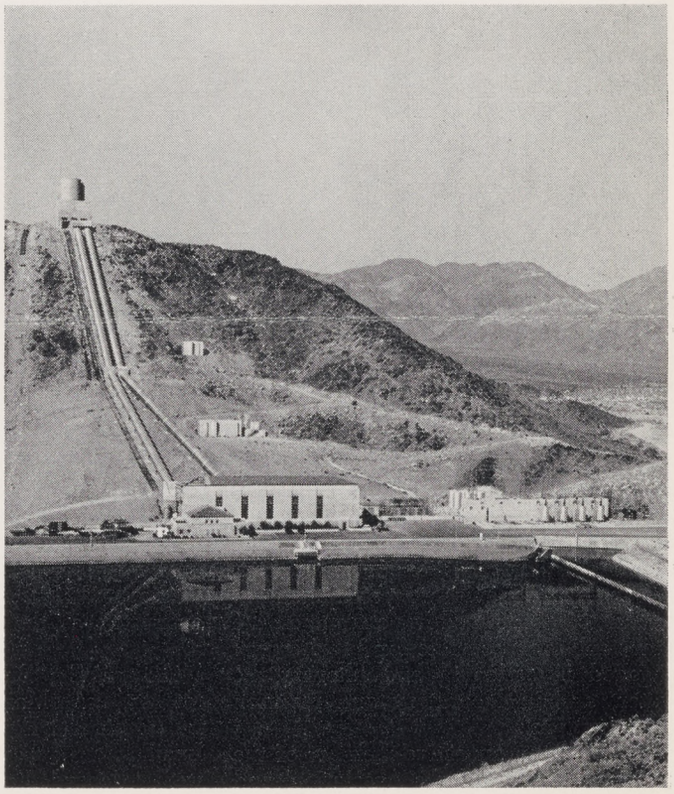
PUMPING PLANT EXPANSION PROGRESSES

A view of Whitsett Intake Pumping Plant showing the two delivery lines and work in progress on the extension of the pumping plant building. Here Colorado River water is lifted 291 feet as it begins its long journey to the coastal plain.

This unusual view is taken looking down the delivery lines at Gene Pumping Plant from the surge chamber at the top of the 303 foot lift. The pumping plant is shown in the background.



Pictured here is Iron Mountain Pumping Plant, its two delivery lines and reservoir as viewed from the top of the delivery lines. Here the water is lifted 144 feet as it continues along the Aqueduct.



Eagle Mountain Pumping Plant with its reservoir in the foreground is shown in this photograph. In the background are the delivery lines and surge chamber at the top of the 438 foot pump lift.

NEWS FROM FIELD AND OFFICE

Rudy Fernandez, Draftsman, became a father for the second time on October 2 when Mrs. Fernandez presented him with a baby girl at the Long Beach Community Hospital. The new arrival weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and has been named Laurie.

* * *

Paul Olivares, Utility Clerk, and his wife, Jacque, have added a baby girl to their family of two boys. The young lady arrived at the Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital on September 21 weighing 7 pounds and has been named Maria Elena.

LEE STREICHER—20 Years of Service

Lee Streicher became eligible for his 20-year service pin on August 1, 1956, having started working for the District on August 7, 1936. He received his B. S. Degree in Chemical Engineering from Armour Institute of Technology in 1931.

After working in various capacities on the design and construction of the Distribution system, he was asigned to the Softening Plant as Chemist in 1942, soon after the plant was first placed in operation, and was made Chief Chemist four months later. Upon the retirement of Mr. Ralph Davis two years ago, Mr. Streicher was placed in charge of the Plant and is responsible for all personnel engaged in softening and filtering the water, and in laboratory and research investigations.

He has been an active member of the American Water Works Asociation, and presented a paper on "Effects of Water Quality on Various Metals" at the Annual Conference in Chicago, Illinois.

FANNIE MAE FINK—20 Years of Service

Fannie Mae Fink became eligible for her 20-year service pin on August 24, 1956, having started working for the District on August 24, 1936 as Stenographer-junior in general stenographic work. She was promoted to Stenographer-Secretary in 1945, and to Supervising Secretary in 1953. Since August 1941 Miss Fink has been secretary to Mr. Skinner, and during the past three years has had the responsibility of general supervision of stenographic work in the Engineering Division in addition to her secretarial duties, performing these duties most loyally and effectively.

* * *

Bobby Reyes, Junior Clerk, became a father for the first time on September 20. A handsome baby boy was born to Mrs. Reyes at the Lincoln Hospital at 2:30 a.m. He weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces and is named Robert, Jr.

* * *

Billy Roy Price, son of Leroy Price, Cook at Gene Village, found a sure fire way to get good grades in his chemistry course at Brigham Young University. He married the teacher! Nancy Slade and Bill were wed in the Church of the Latter Day Saints in Durango, Colorado on September 14. Bill is continuing his studies and Nancy is continuing to teach chemistry at the University.

* * *

Arthur E. "Bud" Graham, Superintendent of Maintenance, Reservoirs, Buildings and Equipment, and his wife, Lucille, are vacationing in Wyoming with Richard Faulhaber, Maintenance Helper, and his wife, Marcia. They plan to do some deer and elk hunting while there.

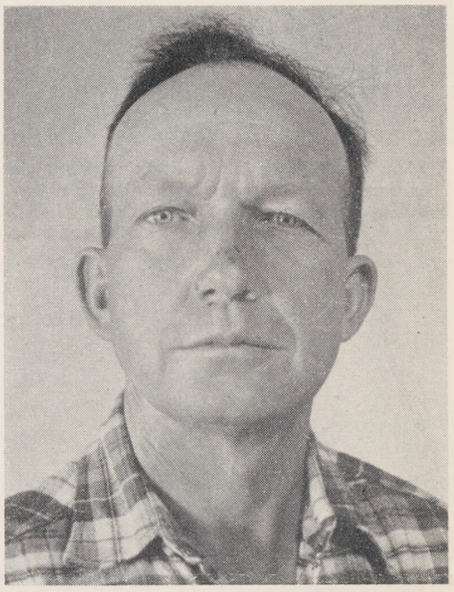
Ray Ackerson, Mechanical Foreman, is back at work after a vacation in Wyoming where he enjoyed some successful antelope hunting.

* * *

Samuel Weaver, Utility Man at the Softening and Filtration Plant, acquired a namesake on September 8 when a son was born to Mrs. Weaver at the Park Avenue Hospital in Pomona. The young man weighed 8 pounds, 5 ounces and was named Sam, Jr.

* * *

Bert Brehaut, Zeolite Operator, was the recipient of a double blessed event on August 3 when Mrs. Brehaut presented him with twin baby daughters at the Pomona Valley Hospital. The two young ladies weighed 3 pounds, 1 ounce and 3 pounds, 11 ounces at birth and have been named Sally and Susan.



HERMAN A. SNIDEMAN—20 Years of Service

Herman A. Snideman became eligible for his 20-year service pin on August 7, 1956. He came to work for the District as a Concrete Finisher on main aqueduct tunnel construction on October 5, 1935.

He worked on the construction of San Jacinto tunnel until 1939 in a variety of capacities, including Truck Driver, Driller, and Concrete Finisher.

After an eight months' absence, due to reduction in forces, he was re-employed on the operation and maintenance of the aqueduct system and has since worked as Maintenance Man and Patrolman. Since 1951, Mr. Snideman has been assigned to patroling the District's portion of the San Diego Aqueduct.